



Chesapeake Bay Program

MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT

BETWEEN THE

U.S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE, STATE COLLEGE, PENNSYLVANIA
THE

ALLIANCE FOR THE CHESAPEAKE BAY

AND THE

U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY, REGION III

I. PURPOSE

This Memorandum of Agreement provides for enhanced cooperation between the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service Pennsylvania Field Office (PAFO) in State College, Pennsylvania, the Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay (Alliance), and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), as partners in the Chesapeake Bay Program. This Agreement is established for the purposes of facilitating cooperation and heightening the awareness of each partner's activities with the objective of improving the environmental condition of the Pennsylvania portion of the Chesapeake Bay watershed. Fifty percent of Pennsylvania is in the Chesapeake Bay watershed and that portion of Pennsylvania comprises thirty-five percent of the total watershed.

The partnership between the PAFO, the Alliance, and the EPA, with support from private organizations with whom

PAFO conducts habitat restoration projects, will provide a unique and effective model for achieving the Chesapeake Bay Program goals for habitat restoration and nutrient reduction. The partnership will strive to nurture local initiatives in Bay tributaries.

The U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service's Chesapeake Bay Field Office in Annapolis, MD, and the EPA entered into a Memorandum of Understanding in 1984 and the Alliance is already an active participant in the Chesapeake Bay Program. This Agreement between PAFO, the Alliance, and EPA complements these existing relationships. The Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay's Office in Harrisburg, PA, will be primarily responsible for implementing the Alliance's commitments in this Agreement, as will EPA's Chesapeake Bay Program Office in Annapolis.

II. UNDERSTANDING

PAFO, the Alliance, and the EPA agree to the following:

1. PAFO will designate a coordinator of Chesapeake Bay Program activities. PAFO will be a permanent member of the Chesapeake Bay Program's Federal Agencies Committee and that Committee's Habitat Restoration Workgroup.
2. PAFO will work with the EPA to implement the goals and objectives of the 1994 Agreement of Federal Agencies on Ecosystem Management in the Chesapeake Bay, generally, and specifically the four commitments related to habitat restoration.

3. PAFO will continue habitat restoration work with the Alliance and other private organizations such as:
 - Audubon Council of Pennsylvania
 - Chesapeake Bay Foundation
 - Ducks Unlimited
 - Juniata Valley Audubon Society
 - National Wildlife Federation
 - Pennsylvania Environmental Council
 - Pennsylvania Federation of Sportsmen's Clubs
 - Pennsylvania Organization for Watersheds and Rivers
 - Pennsylvania Sierra Club

Pennsylvania Wildlife Federation
Pheasants Forever
Susquehanna River Waterfowlers
Susquehanna River Wetlands Trust
Trout Unlimited

4. PAFO shall include the Chesapeake Bay Program in its practice of assisting private landowners with habitat projects and will help the Bay Program offer this type of local initiative to other regions of the Chesapeake Bay watershed.
5. PAFO will participate in habitat restoration projects and nutrient reduction site assessments at federal facilities in Pennsylvania and will nominate potential projects to the Habitat Restoration Workgroup of the Federal Agencies Committee.
6. The Alliance will continue its cooperative partnership with PAFO and will contribute personnel for the planning and implementation of habitat restoration projects.
7. The Alliance will work to promulgate the PAFO/Alliance/CBP practices of local and individual initiatives in Pennsylvania and elsewhere in the watershed.
8. The EPA recognizes the excellent work being done by the PAFO in the Chesapeake Bay watershed and will assist in the planning and implementation of projects. The EPA will coordinate assistance from other Chesapeake Bay Program partners. The EPA will assist the PAFO in applying for funding through its internal budget steering process.
9. The Habitat Restoration Workgroup of the Chesapeake Bay Program's Federal Agencies Committee shall include at least one project in Pennsylvania on its annual list of priority projects on federal lands. The EPA will seek to enhance the goals of this partnership by coordinating assistance from other Workgroup members and Bay Program partners.
10. The EPA and the Alliance will offer assistance in public relations and communications to PAFO through the Chesapeake Bay Program's Communications Office. The Bay Program will also coordinate data and Geographic Information Systems and data bases with PAFO.

III. REQUIRED CLAUSES

Nothing in this Memorandum of Agreement diminishes the independent authority of each agency or organization in the administration of its statutory obligations. It is intended to facilitate those authorities through the cooperative mechanisms of the Chesapeake Bay Program. Authorized representatives of PAFO, the Alliance, or the EPA may enter into supplemental agreements within the scope of this document.


Nothing contained in this Agreement shall be construed as binding PAFO to expend in any fiscal year any sum in excess of appropriations made by Congress or administratively allocated. Nor shall anything contained in this Agreement be construed as binding the Alliance to expend any sum beyond their approved allocated funds.

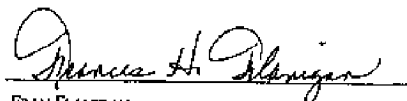
IV. DURATION

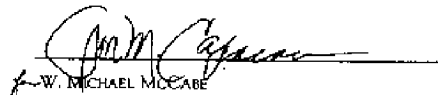
This Memorandum of Agreement becomes effective on the date of signature by all three parties and continues until modified by mutual consent or unless terminated with 60 days

written notice by any party. Termination by one party will not terminate the Agreement between the two remaining parties.

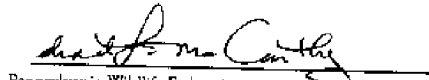
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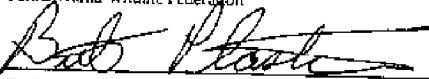

BRUCE BABBITT
Secretary, Department of the Interior

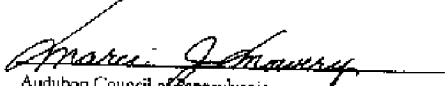

FRAN FLANAGAN
Executive Director, Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay

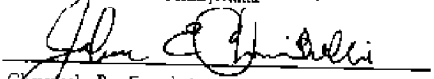

W. MICHAEL MCCABE
Regional Administrator
Environmental Protection Agency, Region III

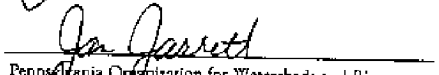
COOPERATORS:

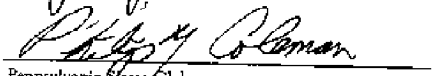

Pennsylvania Wildlife Federation



Ducks Unlimited


Audubon Council of Pennsylvania


Chesapeake Bay Foundation

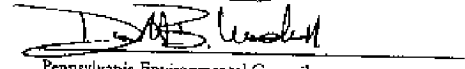

Pennsylvania Organization for Watersheds and Rivers

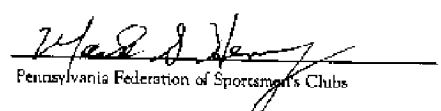

Pennsylvania Clergy Club


Trout Unlimited


Susquehanna River Waterfowlers' Association


Susquehanna River Waterfowlers' Association


Pennsylvania Environmental Council


Pennsylvania Federation of Sportsmen's Clubs